

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5459

INFO AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS UPEQP

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PFOR SF RH WA

SUBJ: VORSTER AVOIDS SPECULATION ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
TAKES TOUGH LINE ON DOMESTIC ISSUES

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. SUMMARY: IN SPEECH TO FREE STATE NATIONAL PARTY
CONGRESS SEPT 8, VORSTER REAFFIRMED NATIONAL PARTY POLICY
OF SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT, RULED OUT ANY POWER SHARING
FORMULAS, AND SAID NEW STEPS WOULD BE TAKEN AGAINST
AGITATORS IF VIOLENCE DOES NOT STOP IMMEDIATELY. HE
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EXPECTS TO MEET WITH RHODESIAN LEADER SMITH EARLY NEXT

WEEK TO DISCUSS HIS RECENT MEETING WITH SECY KISSINGER. VORSTER REITERATED ESTABLISHED POSITION ON SOUTH WEST AFRICA. HE CHARACTERIZED SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AS EXTREMELY DELICATE, AND DECLINED COMMENT ON HIS MEETINGS IN ZURICH. END SUMMARY.

2. PRIME MINISTER VORSTER ADDRESSED ABOUT SIX THOUSAND PEOPLE AT BLOEMFONTEIN IN FINAL SPEECH OF ORANGE FREE STATE NATIONAL PARTY CONGRESS EVENING SEPTEMBER 8. SPEAKING FROM BRIEF NOTES, OFTEN IN ENGLISH WHERE FOREIGN AFFAIRS WERE INVOLVED, HE AVOIDED CHARACTERIZING HIS RECENT DISCUSSIONS WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER. TEXT OF KEY PORTIONS OF SPEECH WILL BE FORWARDED WHEN AVAILABLE, FOLLOWING TRANSCRIPTION FROM OFFICIAL RECORDING.

3. ON RHODESIA, VORSTER SAID HE COULD OFFER NOT DETAILS BECAUSE OF THE CRITICAL NATURE OF THE SITUATION, BUT WOULD MEET WITH RHODESIAN PM SMITH EARLY NEXT WEEK. HE HINTED THAT THERE MIGHT BE MEETINGS WITH BLACK AFRICAN LEADERS LATER ON.

4. REGARDING SOUTH WEST AFRICA, VORSTER SAID THOSE MEETING AT THE TURNHALLE WERE NOT STOOGES OF THE SAG, AND WOULD DECIDE THEIR OWN COURSE. SOUTH AFRICA WOULD ACCEPT THOSE DECISIONS EVEN IF IT MIGHT NOT AGREE. SAG WOULD NOT MEET WITH SWAPO OR ITS LEADER SAM NUJOMA, WHO SHOULD DIRECT ATTENTION TO SWA LEADERS MEETING AT TURNHALLE. LEGISLATION WOULD BE INTRODUCED TO RETURN FULL CONTROL OF WALVIS BAY (WHICH FOR SOME YEARS HAS BEEN ADMINISTERED THROUGH SAME STRUCTURE AS REST OF SWA) DIRECTLY TO SOUTH AFRICA, A STATEMENT TAKEN TO REFLECT DETERMINATION NOT TO GIVE UP WALVIS BAY. PRIME MINISTER ALSO SAID THAT SAG WAS NOT PROFITING FROM ADMINISTRATION OF SWA, BUT WAS IN FACT LOSING MONEY.

5. ON DOMESTIC ISSUES, VORSTER SAID SAG WOULD NOT BE BLACKMAILED INTO AGREEING TO ONE-MAN ONE-VOTE FORMULA. THERE WERE THOSE WHO THOUGHT SAG WAS IN AWKWARD POSITION AND COULD BE PRESSURED, BUT THIS WAS INCORRECT. HE CALLED FOR AN IMMEDIATE END TO VIOLENCE, FAILING WHICH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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UNSPECIFIED STEPS WOULD BE TAKEN. HE WARNED PEOPLE WHO USED VIOLENCE, PLUNDERERS, AND AGITATORS, AND SAID WHITES INVOLVED IN INCITING BLACKS SHOULD STOP AT ONCE, FOR FROM NOW ON THEIR POSITIONS WOULD OFFER THEM NO PROTECTION. VORSTER SAID HE WAS PREPARED TO DISCUSS AND CORRECT REASONABLE BLACK GRIEVANCES INCLUDING WAGES, JOB OPPORTUNITIES, FACILITIES AND AMENITIES, LOCAL MANAGEMENT, HOUSING, AND EDUCATION, BUT NOT POLITICAL RIGHTS. SAG

WOULD NOT BE BLACKMAILED INTO GIVING REPRESENTATION TO
COLOREDS AND INDIANS IN THE SAME PARLIAMENT. PM SAID
IN RECENT DAYS HE HAD THOUGHT DEEPLY ABOUT SOUTH AFRICA'S
PROBLEMS AND HAD CONCLUDED THAT POLICIES OF NATIONAL PARTY
OFFERED ONLY WAY TO GOVERN SOUTH AFRICA. HE HAD
EXPLAINED THAT POLICY TO THE BEST OF HIS ABILITY
WHEREVER HE HAD GONE.
END UNCLASSIFIED

6. COMMENT: LARGE GATHERING FOR THIS SPEECH AT
BLOEMFONTEIN INCLUDED MANY WHO WERE NOT PARTICIPATING
IN NP CONGRESS, REFLECTING ANTICIPATION THAT PM MIGHT
ANNOUNCE SIGNIFICANT STEPS OR CONCESSIONS AIMED AT
CALMING DOEMESTIC SITUATION OR RESULTS OF TALKS WITH
KISSINGER. THOUGH HE MENTIONED WILLINGNESS TO
DISCUSS SOME DOMESTIC ISSUES, HIS OTHERWISE TOUGH
LINE MAY ADD CREDENCE TO THE BELIEF WIDESPREAD AMONG
BLACKS THAT HE HAS NO INTENTION OF TAKING SIGNIFICANT
AMELIORATING STEPS, PARTICULARLY NOT IN AN ATMOSPHERE
WHICH MIGHT SUGGEST CONCEDING TO PRESSURES OR VIOLENCE.
COMING ON THE HEELS OF THE ZURICH MEETING, THIS COULD
REINFORCE BLACK OPINION CONVEYED TO US ON SEVERAL
OCCASIONS THAT US IS NOT PRESSING SAG FOR PROGRESS ON
DOMESTIC RACIAL ISSUES IN ORDER TO OBTAIN SAG COOPERATION
ON RHODESIA AND SOUTH WEST AFRICA. THIS IMPRESSION COULD
LEAD TO INCREASING BLACK MISTRUST OF USG.
BOWDLER

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